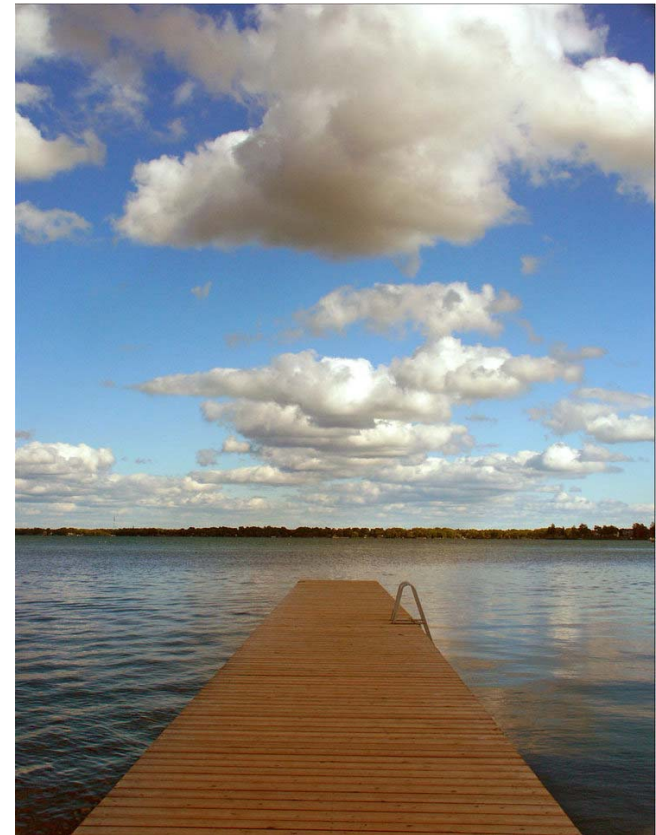


LSPP Implementation Part I: Lake Simcoe Protection Act and Plan

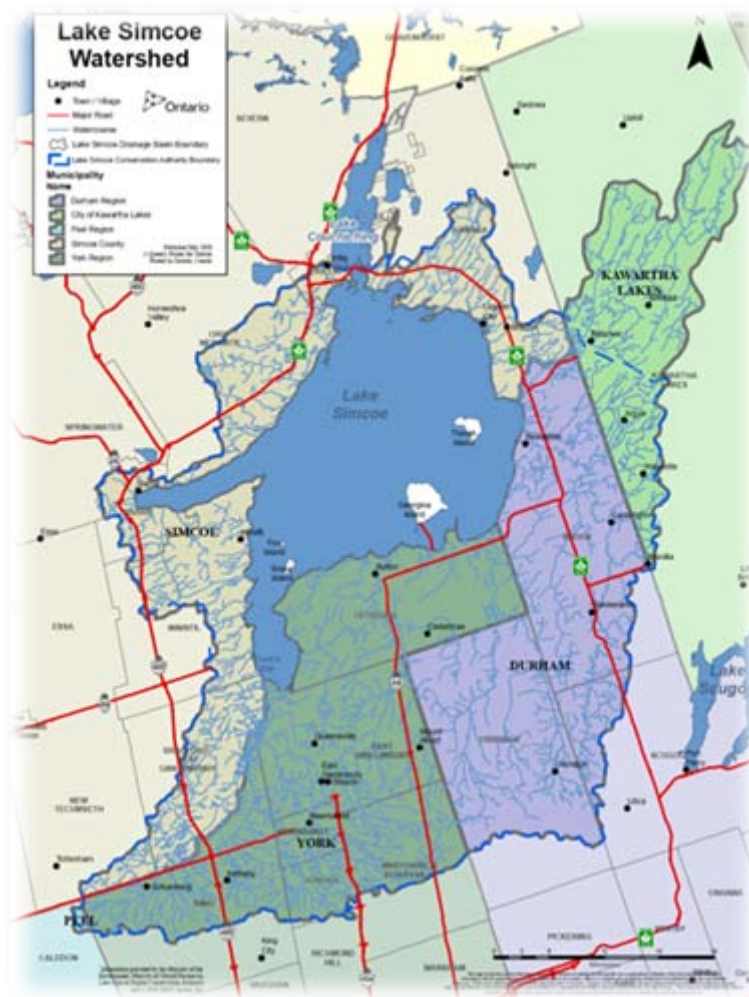


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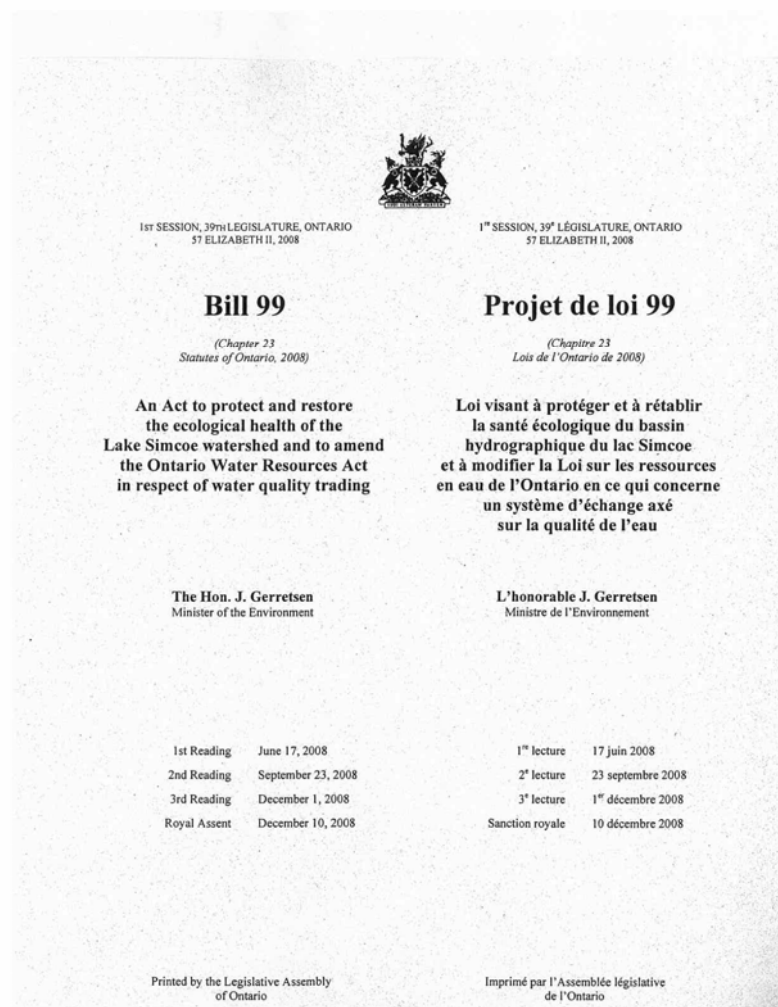
Presentation Outline

- General Authority
- Objectives
- Principles
- Priorities
- How to Read the Plan
- Legal Effects
- Effective Date
- Watershed Boundary
- Transition
- Structure and Relationships



General Authority

- The *Lake Simcoe Protection Act*, 2008 was passed by the Legislature and received Royal Assent in December 2008.
- Provides authority for the establishment of and amendments to the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan.
- Plan established by Lieutenant Governor in Council (LGIC) Order (O.C. 977/2009).



General Authority Cont'd

- The Plan generally applies to the Lake Simcoe Watershed, defined in the section 2 of the *Act*
- The *Act* allows policies in relation to research and monitoring to apply to areas outside of the watershed.
 - Future amendments could apply to certain policies of the Plan outside of the Watershed and must be made in accordance with the *Act*.
- Provincial 10-year review



Objectives of the Plan

Set out in Section 4 of the *Lake Simcoe Protection Act*:

- protect, improve or restore the ecological health of the watershed
- restore a self sustaining coldwater fish community in the lake
- reduce phosphorus loadings and discharge of pollutants to Lake Simcoe and its tributaries;
- prevent invasive species from entering the watershed

Objectives of the Plan Cont'd

- improve the watershed's capacity to adapt to climate change;
- to provide for ongoing scientific research and monitoring
- improve land and water uses and activities, development practices and recreational activities
- build on the protections in existing Provincial Plans and Legislation



Principles of the Plan

- Ecosystem Approach
- Subwatershed Approach
- Precautionary Approach
- Adaptive Management Approach
- Sustainable Development Approach
- Shared Responsibility
- Cost-Effectiveness



Priorities of the Plan

Focus on Issues most critical to the health of Lake Simcoe:

- Restoring the health of aquatic life within the watershed;
- Improving and maintaining water quality, including reducing loadings of phosphorous to the Lake;
- Improving the health of the ecosystem;
 - protecting and rehabilitating shorelines and natural heritage
- Addressing impacts of invasive species, climate change, and recreational activities.



How to Read the Plan

- Consists of targets, indicators and policies organized into chapters
- Read in conjunction with relevant provincial policies, plans and Acts
- If a conflict arises between a designated policy in the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan and a provincial policy of another provincial plan, the provision that gives the greatest protection to the ecological health of the Lake Simcoe watershed prevails.

Legal Effect

- The policies in the plan are grouped into four categories:
 - “Designated Policies” (DP)
 - “Have Regard to” policies (HR)
 - “Monitoring” policies (M)
 - “Strategic Actions” (SA)
- DP, HR and M have legal effect and require that decisions under the *Planning Act* or the *Condominium Act, 1998* or decisions related to a “prescribed instrument” conform with the applicable DPs in the Plan and have regard to the other applicable policies.



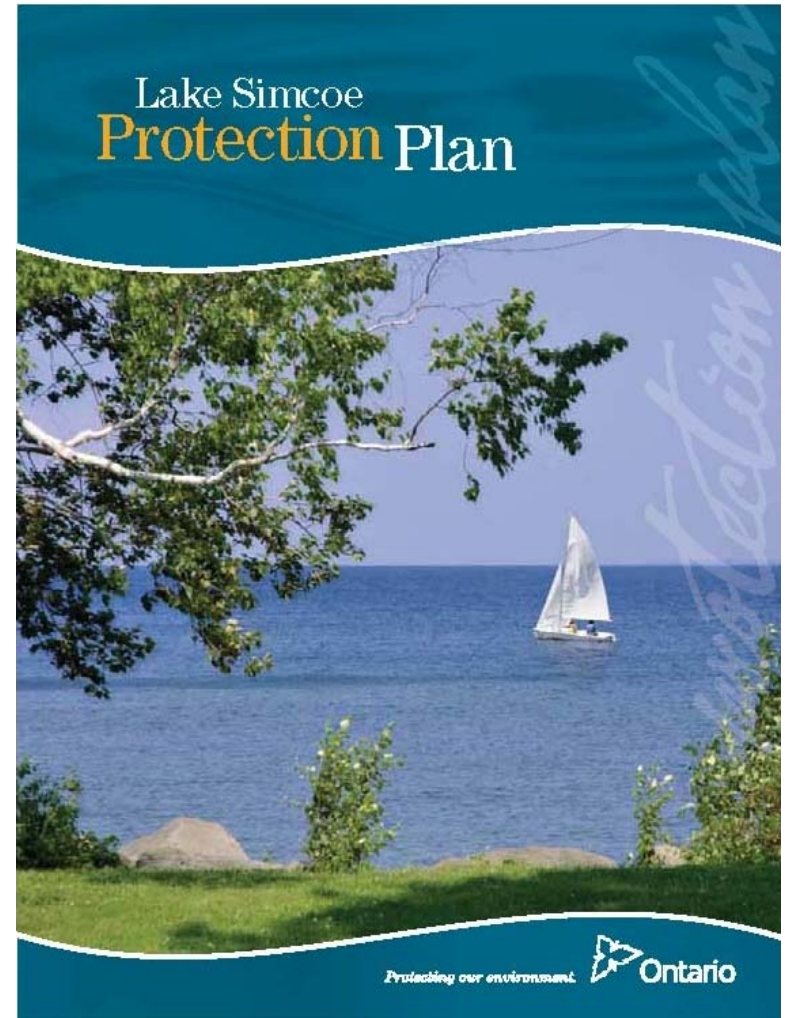
Legal Effect Cont'd

- Comments, submissions and advice of a public body must also conform with the applicable DPs and have regard to the other policies that apply to such decisions.
- All decisions to create or amend a prescribed instrument must conform with the applicable DP policies and have regard to other applicable policies.
- The *Act* allows the Plan to require prescribed instruments to be amended by a specified date to conform to the DP's in the Plan.



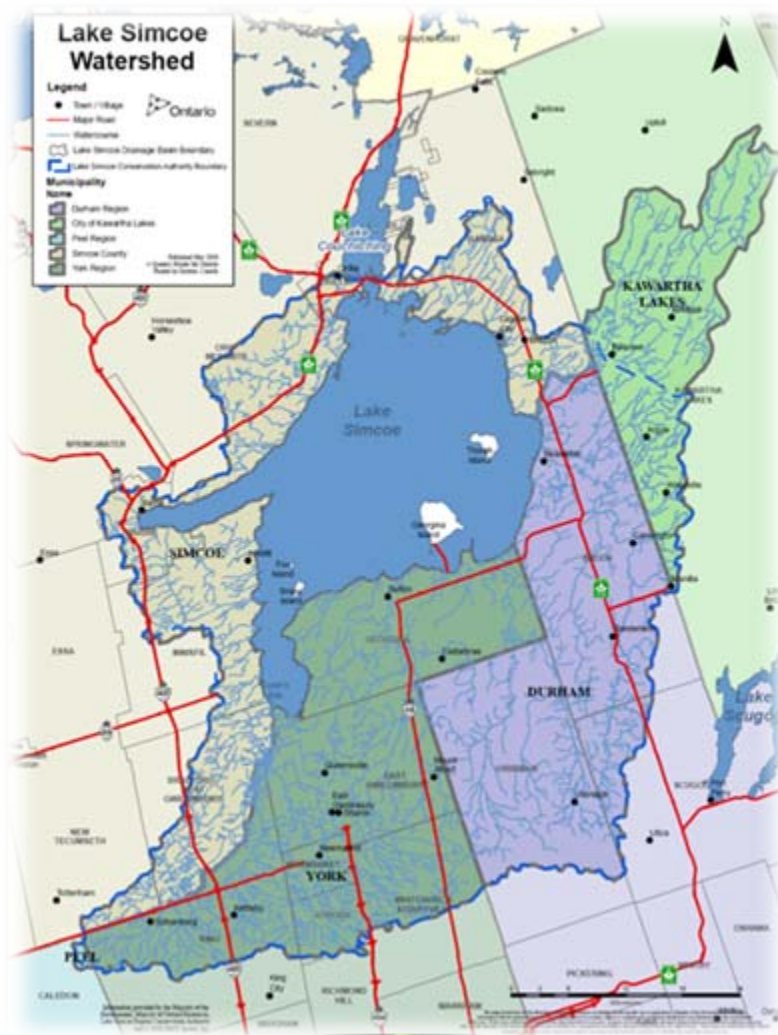
Effective Date of the Plan

- Final Plan came into effect on June 2, 2009
- As of June 2, 2009 the policies in the Plan have legal effect as provided by the *Lake Simcoe Protection Act, 2008*, subject to the transition rules



Watershed Boundary

- Defined in the O. Reg. 219/09 and section 2 of the *Lake Simcoe Protection Act, 2008* as:
 - Lake Simcoe and the parts of Ontario, the water of which drains into Lake Simcoe
 - The data file entitled “*Lake Simcoe Protection Act Watershed Boundary*” dated May 29, 2009, as amended from time to time
 - Accessed through both MNR’s Land Information Ontario initiative (LIO) and MOE’s Lake Simcoe website: www.ene.gov.on.ca



Transition

- Section 27 of the *Lake Simcoe Protection Act* provides authority for a regulation addressing transitional matters
- O. Reg. 219/09 provides:
 - *Rules for applications, matters or proceedings that were commenced prior to the Plan coming into effect but were not disposed of as the effective date of the Plan*
 - *Rules for matters or proceedings in relation to specific applications commenced after the effective date of the Plan*



Structure and Relationships



- Applies to the entire watershed
- Builds on existing protections including:
 - Greenbelt Plan (44%)
 - Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan (14%)
 - Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe applies to entire watershed

Structure and Relationships Cont'd

- Builds on the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS)
- To be read in conjunction with municipal official plans

